

REMARKS

This is intended as a full and complete response to the Office Action dated June 18, 2008, having a shortened statutory period for response extended one month set to expire on October 18, 2008. Claims 19-35 have been examined.

Statement of Substance of Interview

On October 8, 2008, a telephonic interview was held between Walter C. Grollitsch and the Examiner. The parties discussed the cited references Chung (U.S. 6,433,864) and Grann (U.S. 6,201,908). A proposed claim was also discussed.

The arguments and amendments herein are presented in accordance with the substance of the interview to place the application in better condition for allowance.

Claim Objections

The Examiner objected to claims 20, 23 and 28 due to informalities. Applicants have cancelled claims 20, 23 and 28, thereby obviating the rejection.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

The Examiner rejected claims 19, 23-27, 33 and 34 as being obvious over Chung (U.S. 6,433,864) and Ames (U.S. 6,661,817). The Examiner rejected claims 20-22 and 35 as being obvious over Chung, Ames and Grann (U.S. 6,201,908). The Examiner rejected claims 28, 31 and 32 as being obvious over Chung and Grann. The Examiner rejected claim 29 as being obvious over Chung, Grann and Ames. The Examiner rejected claim 30 as being obvious over Chung, Grann, Shin ("A Novel Optical Signal-to-Noise Ratio Monitoring Technique for WDM Networks") and Ames. Applicants have cancelled claims 19-35, thereby obviating the rejection.

New Claims

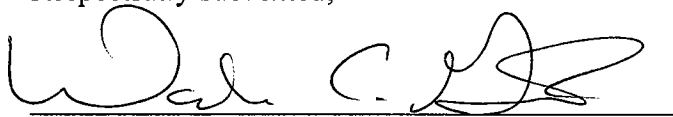
New claims 36-47 have been added to claim aspects of the present invention. Applicants submit that no new subject matter has been added. As discussed during the interview, Applicants believes that the cited references fail to teach or disclose performance monitoring of signals in an add/drop multiplexer as they are sequentially dropped from and added to an input

signal, as recited in new claims 36-47. Therefore, Applicants believe that new claims 36-47 are in condition for allowance and respectfully request the same.

Conclusion

Having addressed all issues set out in the office action, Applicants respectfully submit that the case is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner has any questions, please contact the Applicants' undersigned representative at the number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Walter C. Grollitsch', written over a horizontal line.

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